<u>Social Security and the CARES Act</u>

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients <u>are</u> eligible for the rebate payments:

- The CARES Act provides for direct cash payments of $1,200 for each adult and $500 for each child if they have a Social Security Number (SSN) and their household income is below $75,000 for individuals, $112,500 for heads of households and $150,000 married couples. This includes Social Security beneficiaries (retirement, disability, survivor) and SSI recipients.

- Many people will be paid automatically by IRS including everyone who filed a 2019 or 2018 tax return, and all Social Security beneficiaries (whether or not they filed a return). Others – including SSI recipients, who often do not file taxes – may need to take additional action to be determined by the IRS. They may be asked to file some sort of abbreviated return to get the payments, like with the 2008 stimulus rebates.

- These rebates do not count as income or resources for means-tested programs, so they will not interfere with someone's eligibility for SSI, SNAP, Medicaid, ACA premium credits, TANF, housing assistance, or other income-related federal programs.

- These rebates also do not affect receipt of state or federal unemployment compensation.

- The bill requires the Treasury, in conjunction with the Social Security Administration and other federal agencies, to conduct a "public awareness campaign" about the rebates, specifically targeting those who do not file tax returns.

- The bill gives the Social Security Administration $38 million to help carry out the rebates, and $300 million to bolster its overall service delivery.

The Act's payroll tax provisions have no effect on Social Security's trust funds:

- The bill lets employers temporarily delay payment of their share of Social Security payroll taxes. This does not mean they don't owe those taxes, but rather that they will make the payments in 2021 and 2022 to help ensure these businesses can continue operating during this crisis.

- None of these provisions change the amount or timing of money deposited into the Social Security trust funds.

- They also do not alter the fundamental nature of Social Security as a contributory system where individuals earn their benefits with each paycheck.